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OUR LONDON LETTER.

[REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE COLONIST.]

LONDON, December 7, 1861.

PROSPECTS OF WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES.

There is but one topic of conversation in the mouths of men in England at the present moment—and it is of that momentous character that men refuse to be drawn away from it. At last, what everybody has so long feared has come to pass, for we are on the brink of an immediate war with the Northern States of America. Our character as neutrals exposed us to much obloquy from both North and South, but the cry was particularly loud from the former. In my last letter I mentioned that a Confederate war steamer, the Nashville, had arrived at Southampton and landed some Federal prisoners whom she had taken out of the Harvey Birch, a large United States vessel which she had captured and burnt. Of course such an event gave rise to much speculation and furnishing up of authorities on international law, but as soon as Lord Russell refused to grant a search warrant which had been applied for by Capt. Nelson, of the Harvey Birch, on the ground of our neutrality, it became evident that the Government did not consider any breach of international law had been committed by Capt. Pegram of the Nashville in exercising his right of coming into a neutral port to refit. As it turned out there was fortunately a precedent for this course, as a Yankee war vessel, the Joseph Adger, had only a few weeks previously availed herself of the same privilege and refitted at Portsmouth. What effect this decision of our Government to maintain strict neutrality and to grant equal favors to both sides will have in the North we are yet ignorant. It is expected, however, that this country will be assailed with all the Billing-gate, with the use of which the New York journals are but too familiar, and that we shall be held up for universal reprobation from Maine to Washington.

YANKEE OUTRAGE ON THE BRITISH FLAG.

Before, however, this affair was settled, the nation was roused from one end to the other by an outrage of unparalleled audacity, and one, moreover, which bore all the signs of a premeditated insult. [Here our correspondent gives a full account of the seizure of Mason and Slidell.—Ed. Colonist.] On the 28th of November the Cabinet Council met and on Saturday November 30th the country was informed that the Government had despatched a messenger to Lord Lyons instructing him to demand the immediate restitution of the Southern Commissioners and their Secretaries, together with a suitable apology for the insult offered to the British flag. This decisive action has been hailed by the country with the greatest satisfaction, and we have now only to wait for the decision of the Federal Government [Since obtained by the delivery up of the prisoners.] If the Federal Government cashier Capt. Wilkes, restore the prisoners and make an apology, we shall be delighted in England. We have not the slightest wish to go to war with the Yankees. In spite of the many affronts they have put upon us we feel that they are nearer and dearer to us than any other nation of the world. We know that great sufferings will be inflicted on both sides, and that neither party will gain anything beyond hard blows, barren honor and increased debt and taxation. But such a does not appear to be the feeling on their side. Already they are insisting on a substantial recognition of Captain Wilkes' services by promotion to a loftier grade, and all because he had the madness to board an unarmed vessel and carry off four of her passengers who relied on the protection of a friendly flag. Let us hope, however, that if no sense of morality prevail with the North, that after the first burst of bluster has passed they may look at the matter like men of common sense. For eight months past they have been trying to subdue the Confederate army and re-unite the sundered States without success—may, in many cases, with positive failure and defeat. The only way they can hope to coerce the South at all is from the seaboard, by blockading her cotton and other ports, and so cutting off "the sinews of war" which she would receive by the sale of her cotton. Under such circumstances, prudence would scarcely advise the North to pick a quarrel with the most powerful maritime nation of the globe. It is no exaggeration to say that if such a quarrel should

arise the blockade must be raised, and the comparatively insignificant American Navy forced either to keep its harbors or suffer itself to be swept from the ocean. Never at any time was our fleet so efficient as at present, and never were our sailors more eager to man Her Majesty's ships. Let there be no mistake on this score. The naval reserves have been swelled by the entry of new men since the intelligence of this outrage, all of them eager to have a brush with the Yankees. Also, let it be understood that we do not intend to send small frigates to be crushed by ships of nominally the same number of guns but in reality twice as heavy. We paid too dearly in the last war for our experience to forget it now. A strong fleet will immediately be sent to the American waters if reparation be not made. Our dockyards are busy in fitting out vessels for instant service, and it is not impossible that the Yankees may have an opportunity of a closer inspection of that noble frigate the Warrior than will be agreeable to them. In addition to these naval preparations, troops, arms and munitions of war are being sent to Canada. Full reliance is placed at home on the gallantry and loyalty of the Canadians should the North be insane enough to attack them. The late Duke of Wellington used to say that in case of a war between Canada and the States that the party which held the command of the Lakes would be victorious. By the recently constructed canal our gunboats will be enabled to enter the lakes at pleasure, so that if the illustrious Duke's dictum be true, Canada ought to feel every confidence. Besides these measures of precaution, Royal proclamations have been issued forbidding the export of arms, gunpowder, and materials for making gunpowder. This latter precaution was not taken too soon. For it turned out that the Federal Government had bought up nearly 3000 tons of saltpetre, all which was in the market at a price of £123,000, and the order was only just issued in time to prevent its shipment. As most of the saltpetre comes from Oude we have a practical monopoly of this valuable article, and the Yankees will be reduced to great expense and shifts in finding a substitute for it. All these points are decidedly in our favor, and better by far than any of them is the reported feelings of the Canadians, who, we are told, entertain a very cordial and honest detestation of the Yankees. **

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Scald Heads, Sore Breasts, Inflamed Nipples.—There is no medical preparation in the world which may be so thoroughly depended on in the treatment of the above ailments as Holloway's invaluable Ointment, and scarcely a day passes in which authentic testimonials to its extraordinary efficacy are not received from all parts of the globe. Nothing can be simpler or more safe than the manner in which they are applied, or its action on the body both locally and constitutionally. The Ointment rubbed on the part affected enters the pores just as salt enters meat, and not only gets rid of the local evil, but penetrates to the source of it, and drives it from the system.

BRONCHITIS.—The usual symptoms of this disease are Cough, Soreness of the Lungs or Throat, Hoarseness, Difficulty of Breathing, Hectic Fever, a spitting up of Phlegm or matter and sometimes Blood. It is an inflammation of the fine skin which lines the inside of the whole of the Wind Tubes or Air Vessels which run through every part of the Lungs. James's Expectant immediately suppresses the Cough, Pain, Inflammation, Fever and difficulty of Breathing; produces a free and easy expectoration, and effects a speedy cure.

Sold by CURTIS & MOORE and LANGLEY BROS., Victoria.

Wines and Liquors.

PHILLIPS, DeYOUNG & CO.,
Importers and Dealers in
Brandies, Wines, Liquors and Ales,
NO. 15, WHARF STREET, NEAR YATES.

Ex Late Arrivals—
RECEIVED AND FOR SALE LOW:

HENNESSY BRANDY—Pale (choice) in q r casks
MARTELL " " Pale (choice) in q r casks
BONNIOT " " do do in q casks
PELLEVOISIN " " do do in q casks
A. CAMUS " " do do in q casks
RUM—All kinds.
WHISKY—Scotch and other, in large quantities.
PORT WINES—In cases, choice quality.
SHERRY WINES—In cases, choice quality.
PORT AND SHERRY—In q r casks.
HOLLAND GIN—Superior, in pipes and cases.
OLD TOM GIN—In puncheons and cases.
ALE—100 cases Pale Ale, in fine order.
PORTER—100 cases in fine order.
BITTERS—Of every brand and description.
SYRUPS, CORDIALS, &c.
CLARET WINES—In cases and cases large stock of all
CHAMPAGNE WINES—A complete stock of all the favorite brands.
Sole Agents for Phillips & Hoggins' Syrups, &c.
Ja24 1m

Ice! Ice!! Ice!!!

From 50 Tons Upwards of
CLEAN FRASER RIVER ICE,
Will be delivered on board
any vessel free of charge, at New Westminster,
for the low price of
ONE CENT PER POUND CASH.
For particulars apply to
SAM. HERRING,
New Westminster,
HARRIS & CO.,
Victoria.
Ja24 1m

REMOVAL.

HENRY NATHAN
Has removed to the
New Fire-proof Brick Store,
OPPOSITE THE H. B. CO'S WHARF.
Ja24 1m

MISCELLANEOUS.

ROYAL MAIL
Steam Packet
Company's Agency,
For British Columbia & Vancouver Island.
OFFICE, MACDONALD & CO., BANKERS,
Yates Street.

THE ATTENTION OF SHIPPERS
and passengers is respectfully solicited to the superior facilities the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Line affords for the speedy conveyance of Treasure, Goods and Passengers to and from England to British Columbia and Vancouver Island. In connection with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's Vessels and the Panama Railroad. The superiority of the accommodation and entertainment on board the Royal Mail Steamers, together with the time occupied on the passage between England and Aspinwall direct, being so much shorter than by any other route, and the moderate rate of passage money, render this Company's steamers the CHEAPEST AND MOST EXPEDIENT MEANS OF TRANSIT, for passengers or for the forwarding of Goods and Treasure from Aspinwall to Europe. Under an arrangement with the PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO., Specie and Bullion can be conveyed to London and Havre in France, covered by the COMPANY'S AND MOST EXPEDIENT MEANS OF TRANSIT, for passengers or for the forwarding of Goods and Treasure from Aspinwall to Europe. An arrangement also exists for the transmission by Express to and from Aspinwall, of measurement goods, jewellery and plate. Merchants in the North Pacific will find it to their advantage to instruct their correspondents to ship all their Higher Class Freight from Europe by this Line, and to those concerned in the trade with Havana, the facilities afforded by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for conveying Merchandise, such as Cigars, &c., through to Panama, without the necessity of the intervention of an Agent, is especially convenient. Arrangements can be made for the shipment of Gold, Silver and Copper Ores, Furs, &c., to Europe from Aspinwall, by the Company's steamers, on favorable terms. Further information on the subject of Freight, Passage Money, and the general arrangement of the Company, will be furnished by the undersigned.

ALEX. D. MACDONALD, Agent.
MACDONALD & CO.,
Yates street, Victoria, V. I.
SELL EXCHANGE drawn at sight or on time, on
Courts & Co., London.
Bank of State of New York, New York.
DRAFTS on San Francisco, California.
Portland, Oregon.
GOLD DUST and Bullion purchased at the highest rates.
ADVANCES MADE on gold dust left for assay at Government Assay Office, New Westminster; or if sent for assay or coinage to United States Mint, San Francisco.
Collections made on reasonable terms, and a General Banking Business Transacted.
Victoria, V. I., Jan 17, 1862. Ja27 1m

BOOKS AND STATIONERY!

A FULL
Well-Assorted Stock!
OF THE ABOVE
can be found at
HIBBEN & CARSWELL'S.
—ALSO—
CONNECTED WITH THE TRADE:

MUSIC—Manuscript and Sheet, and Books for various Instruments; Drawing Paper and Water-colors, Tracing Cloth and Paper, Mathematical Instruments, Pocket Compasses for Cariboo wanderers, Law and Shipping Blank Forms.
DIARIES FOR 1862.
STATIONER'S HALL.
Colony of Vancouver Island.
OFFICE OF LANDS AND WORKS,
December 27th.
TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT
this Office up to the 1st day of March next for the construction of a DREDGING MACHINE for use in Victoria Harbor.
Plans and Specifications can be seen at this Office, and at the Office of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at San Francisco but Tenders are permitted to propose Plans and Specifications of their own, should they prefer it.
The maximum depth to which the Machine will be required to work is 25 feet.
Tenders will be received for the supply of the Machinery and Barge, separate or combined; but the latter, if otherwise satisfactory, will be preferred.
Tenders are to state the time within which they will guarantee to deliver the Machinery and Barge at Victoria in complete working order.
Security to the amount of £1000 for the proper performance of any contract entered into for the supply of the Machinery or Machine complete, will be required.
The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
J. DESPARD PEMBERTON,
Surveyor General.
Ja23 1m

Wines and Liquors.

PHILLIPS, DeYOUNG & CO.,
Importers and Dealers in
Brandies, Wines, Liquors and Ales,
NO. 15, WHARF STREET, NEAR YATES.

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PORT AND SHERRY—In q r casks.
HOLLAND GIN—Superior, in pipes and cases.
OLD TOM GIN—In puncheons and cases.
ALE—100 cases Pale Ale, in fine order.
PORTER—100 cases in fine order.
BITTERS—Of every brand and description.
SYRUPS, CORDIALS, &c.
CLARET WINES—In cases and cases large stock of all
CHAMPAGNE WINES—A complete stock of all the favorite brands.
Sole Agents for Phillips & Hoggins' Syrups, &c.
Ja24 1m

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From 50 Tons Upwards of
CLEAN FRASER RIVER ICE,
Will be delivered on board
any vessel free of charge, at New Westminster,
for the low price of
ONE CENT PER POUND CASH.
For particulars apply to
SAM. HERRING,
New Westminster,
HARRIS & CO.,
Victoria.
Ja24 1m

REMOVAL.

HENRY NATHAN
Has removed to the
New Fire-proof Brick Store,
OPPOSITE THE H. B. CO'S WHARF.
Ja24 1m

FOR SALE-TO LET.

Plunger for Sale.
THE PLUNGER—LADY FRANKLIN, 104 Tons register, 6 months old, well fitted and in sailing order, now lying near Stevens' Steam Mill, James Bay, will be sold at a bargain if application be made immediately at the Victoria Hotel, Government street. Ja20 31*

TO LET.
ON MODERATE TERMS, THE BRICK YARD on Fairfield Farm, adjoining the Park, and until lately occupied by Messrs. Balis & Mason. A privilege of cutting wood will be given. For particulars inquire of
LD. LOWENBERG,
Real Estate Agent,
Government street, No 36, between Fort and Broughton streets. Ja18

Work Oxen for Sale.

A PAIR OF LARGE AMERICAN Work Oxen. Apply to
M. TUITT,
Or at the New England Bakery. Ja18

FOR SALE.

A VALUABLE LOT ON YATES STREET, 60 by 120 feet.
SILVER AND COPPER MINING stocks.
—ALSO—
A VALUABLE CLAIM ON WILLIAM'S Creek, Cariboo.

TO LEASE.

FOR A TERM OF YEARS, A DESIRABLE Lot on James' Bay, fronting on Government Street.
WILLIAM JEFFRAY, Broker. Ja5

Bakery for Sale.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OWNED BY the subscribers will be sold cheap for cash. It is the best stand in Yale, and is doing a good business. Parties wishing to purchase can learn the terms by applying to
ROBERTSON & McARDY, Fort Yale, B. C. Ja14 1m

TO LET.

THE BRITISH AMERICAN HOTEL. Apply to
D. F. ADAMS. Ja14 1m

R. BRODRICK,

GRAIN AND PRODUCE DEALER,
UNION WHARF,
WILL BUY AND SELL

WHEAT,
FLOUR,
BARLEY,
DO. Ground
HAY, (Timothy)
DO. (California)
OATS,
BRAN,
LARD,
BUTTER,
EGGS, and
CHEESE, Ja27

CALIFORNIA

Mutual Marine Insurance Co.,
OF SAN FRANCISCO.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING BEEN appointed Agents for the above Company in the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, beg to call the attention of Shipowners and Merchants thereto.

In all cases of loss or damage to vessels or cargo insured in this office, it will be necessary that the assured or their representatives immediately notify such to the Agents in Victoria, who have full instructions in regard to any losses that may occur, and will much facilitate the settlement of claims on the Company.
FRED. GREEN, Wharf street. Ja10

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON

Fire and Life Insurance Company
ESTABLISHED 1836.
Cash Capital and Reserved Fund \$6,000,000
W. B. JOHNSON, Esq., Agent for San Francisco.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS AUTHOR ized to receive applications for Insurance in Victoria on first class Buildings and merchandise stored therein; and will also insure detached frame residences in the suburbs, and furniture in same.
FRED. GREEN, Wharf street. Ja12 1m

DR. JAMES DUNLEVY,

OFFICE, "METROPOLITAN,"
Yates street, opposite Langley, Victoria
PARTICULAR ATTENTION PAID TO the treatment of Chronic Diseases. Consultation free to all.
Office hours from 10 A. M. to 8 P. M. Ja11

UNDERTAKING.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING A COMPLETE Stock on hand, is now prepared to execute any order therewith, on the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.
The Trade Supplied.
R. LEWIS,
Corner of Government and Broughton streets, Ja13 1f
Victoria.

MR. COPLAND

WILL SELL
A SALE BY AUCTION
EVERY WEDNESDAY,
At 12 o'clock.
AUCTION ROOMS, LANGLEY STREET, Ja12 1m

For Sale by the Undersigned,

IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT,
Via: 25 bbls Haxall Flour,
100 bbls Standard Mills Extra Flour,
200 bbls Magnolia do do
20,000 lbs Oregon Bacon, Sides and Hams,
Ja29 1m
J. J. SOUTHWATE & CO.,

Agricultural Implements.

A LARGE AND VARIED ASSORTMENT of Agricultural Implements of all kinds on hand and constantly arriving, for sale on the most favorable terms and at the lowest city prices.
J. D. ARTHUR & SON,
Importers and Dealers,
402, Washington and Davis etc.,
San Francisco. Ja13 1f

J. J. SOUTHWATE & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
Union Wharf,
VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.
And Battery street, San Francisco, California. Ja13 1f

GROCERIES, ETC.

Sporborg & Goldstone,
YATES' FIRE-PROOF STONE STORE,
WHARF STREET.

Patent Lever Pressing Machine,

For Packing Goods.
SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE TAKE pleasure in informing their numerous customers throughout British Columbia that they have imported at considerable expense a Patent Packing Press, and all goods intended for Cariboo will be packed by our Press FREE OF EXTRA CHARGE. The advantages to those purchasing goods from us and getting them packed by our Press are twofold: First, there is fully one-half saved in steambout freight—a package of 150 lbs. of dry goods or clothing packed with our Press will measure about two cubic feet, while the same quantity packed in the ordinary manner will measure from three to four cubic feet. Secondly, the packages being solid, compact, and of small dimensions, can be handled with greater ease by the packer, and carried much more comfortably by the pack animal.

Just Received and For Sale,

Ex "Oracle,"
FROM LONDON, VIA SAN FRANCISCO,
White, Blue and Scarlet Blankets
and other English Goods.

—ALSO—

300 doz Grey and White Merino Undershirts and drawers;
100 doz Grey Flannel Overshirts;
100 doz Duck Pants;
100 doz Assorted Casimere and Satinette Pants;
100 cases Steel-cheesed Godfrey's Fremont Boots;
50 cases Steel-cheesed and full-nailed Kip Brogans;
10,000 lbs Oregon Bacon (prime sides);
10,000 lbs China Sugar;
10,000 lbs S. I. Sugar;
5,000 lbs Crushed Sugar (San Francisco Refined);
50 cases Jewell, Harrison & Co.'s Land, Ja27

CONSTANTLY ON HAND,

A large Stock of every Species of
GROCERIES,
PROVISIONS,
DRY GOODS,
CLOTHING,
BOOTS & SHOES,
YANKEE NOTIONS
&c., &c., &c.

To all of which we invite the attention of the trade.

Agents for Armes' California Broome Factory.
Agents for Pioneer Macaroni and Vermicelli Manufactory, San Francisco.

SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE,

Yates' Stone Warehouse, Wharf street, Victoria, V. I., Feb. 5, 1860. Ja27

MARTIN BROS.,

WHOLESALE GROCERS
—AND—
PROVISION DEALERS,
FIREPROOF STORE, ROYAL HOTEL BUILDING
Wharf street, Victoria, V. I.

ARE CONSTANTLY IN RECEIPT OF

Groceries and Provisions, which they offer for sale at low rates.
FOR SALE—200 doz. Fancy German Pipes.
Orders from the country promptly filled. Ja14 1m

GLADWIN, TARBELL & CO.,

IMPORTERS, COMMISSION MERCHANTS
AND
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Groceries and Provisions,
Wharf street,
New Brick Building, opposite H. B. C. Wharf.
VICTORIA, V. I. Ja13 1f

Removal.

GUILD, DAVID & CO.
Wholesale Grocers & Provision Dealers,
HAVE REMOVED TO THE NEW
Fire-proof store, corner of Wharf and Bastion streets, opposite the Hudson Bay Company's store
[The store formerly occupied by them at No. 10 Wharf street, is offered for rent low. Ja11 1m

KWONG LEE & CO.,

Commission Merchants,
Importers and Dealers in all kinds of
CHINESE GOODS,
Rice, Sugar, Tea, Provisions, etc., etc.,
CORMORANT STREET,
Between Government and Douglas streets, Ja17 6m
VICTORIA, V. I.

RECEIVED,

EX "PRINCE OF THE SEAS,"
FROM LONDON,
AN EXCELLENT ASSORTMENT OF
NAPOLEON BOOTS,
Ladies', Gents' and Children's
BOOTS AND SHOES,
All Made to Order expressly for our Retail Trade.
Ja23 1m
WEBSTER & CO.,
Yates street.

Ex "Prince of the Seas."

For Sale by the Undersigned.
34 TONS SWEDISH IRON,
IN LOTS TO SUIT.
Ja25 1m
ARTHUR FELLOWS,

M. PRAG.

Yates street,
offers for sale, cheap,
HARDWARE,
Agricultural Implements
Bar Iron, Steel & Iron-Mongery,
STOVE & TINWARE
of every description.
Glass and Crockery Ware, Wood and Willow Ware
&c. &c. Ja16

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Saturday Morning, Feb. 22, 1862.

THE MARKET.—About 200 tons of goods, recently purchased for British Columbia, remain in store here awaiting the reopening of navigation for shipment to the sister colony. Flour is firm at \$9 for superfine and \$10 for extra, with sufficient to meet any draw likely to be made on stocks for the next fortnight or three weeks. Bacon is not very plentiful at 15@16c per lb. for good Eastern and 18c. for Oregon. Sugars of every grade are held high; China brings 10@10½c per lb., Sandwich Islands, 9@12½c; crushed, 17@18c. Rio coffee is selling at 26@27c; ground do., 37½@40c per lb. Beans, advancing and held at 7@8c for new bayos. Potatoes are worth 2c per lb. wholesale, though the cargo of a schooner from the Sound only realized 1½c at the wharf three days since. Onions are selling here at 5c per lb., but are ready sale in the San Francisco market at 15@16c. Every description of goods may be quoted with an upward tendency—particularly produce. All are fully aware of the immense quantities of grain and live stock destroyed by the recent floods in Oregon and California, and the consequent sudden rise in the necessities of life. Latest advices from California, quote flour at \$7@9 per bbl. with light stocks, and a letter from Oregon informs us that if the rush to the Salmon River mines proves as great as present indications would seem to warrant Oregonians in believing will be the case, a ready home market will be had for all the produce now on hand or that may be raised in that State during the coming season let the crops be ever so abundant. There is every prospect of a still further advance in articles of staple production, and the year '62 will doubtless prove a golden one for the Pacific Coast agricultural producers, whatever effect the high rates of provision may have upon consumers.

ARRIVAL OF THE "EMILY HARRIS."—The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Court, arrived yesterday afternoon from Port Moody, Burrard's Inlet, with four passengers and \$8000 in gold dust. She left the Inlet on Thursday morning, and anchored the same night in Plumper Pass. A heavy snow-storm prevailed at New Westminster and Port Moody when the steamer left, and yesterday morning Capt. Court found two feet of snow on the deck of his vessel. A passenger, from Port Douglas five days ago, reports the ice breaking up at the mouth of Harrison River and the Sumas. On Thursday it was reported at New Westminster that the ice had commenced to break opposite Langley.

ARRIVAL OF THE "ENTERPRISE."—The steamer Enterprise arrived from the Sound at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon with 13 passengers and 18 head of beef cattle. We are indebted to Capt. Curry and Purser Finch for the usual favors. A large overland mail of papers came by this arrival. No later news from Oregon and nothing of interest from the Sound.

ARRIVAL OF THE "OTTER."—The steamer Otter arrived from Burrard's Inlet at six o'clock last evening, with five passengers and a small amount in gold dust. The Otter left the Inlet at noon yesterday, when fifteen inches of freshly-fallen snow were on the ground. The New Westminsterites have held another steamship meeting, and the committee who waited on the Governor stated the manner in which they had been "steamboat" by the Attorney General. Several fiery speeches were made, and after the passage of a series of resolutions the meeting adjourned. No express was received from above New Westminster. The cause is stated to be attributable to the rotting of the ice, which renders travel unsafe.

CATTLE STEALING.—Mr. Tod, of Oak Bay Farm, has lost several steers this winter, supposed to have been shot by land-pirates from San Juan Island. He also has several fine beef-cattle with marks of bullets in parts of their bodies not vital. At Bayley's Point, above Cadboro Bay, the pirates have left traces where cattle have been killed and quartered. Quite an extensive business seems to have been done by the rascals this winter, and the farmers along the easterly coast of the Island must have suffered severely from their depredations.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—To-day is the birthday of George Washington the Father of American independence. The day will be celebrated in both the Northern and Southern States; about the only feeling they have in common now is respect for the memory of Washington. The American merchants here will close their stores during the day.

LUNATIC INQUIREND.—A special jury of eight was yesterday empaneled under a writ of *lunatic inquirend*, to inquire touching the sanity of James N. Thain, late a resident of this city.—Chief Justice Cameron sitting as Lord Chancellor and T. G. Williams, Esq., as Commissioner. Three witnesses were examined, and the jury found that Mr. Thain had been a lunatic since the 30th of October, 1861.

ASSAULT.—Alexander Swan, yesterday in the Police Court, pleaded guilty to an assault on William Molineux, and was fined £3. The assaulted came to Court with one eye in mourning.

AN IMPROVEMENT.—On Thursday evening a young man, rendered temporarily insane from the too free use of strong drink, was taken to the Barracks and locked up. In the morning a friend came forward and deposited \$5 for the drunkard's appearance in Court to answer a charge of drunkenness; but when court time arrived, the inebriate was *non est*, and his bail was declared forfeited. Had he appeared to answer the charge he would have saved about \$3 75. Heretofore the custom at the Police Court has been in cases of drunkenness to require heavier bail for the prisoner's appearance, and whether he came forward or not he was rarely fined more than \$1 25. By the new arrangement, however, bail is fixed at \$5 for drunks, and if they do not appear the sum is forfeited to the Crown. Almost any person, when in his sober senses, would give \$5 sooner than answer a charge of this nature in open court. Hence we may expect a very sensible increase to the revenue from the new system.

Rifle Volunteers.
A meeting of this corps was held last night in the Police Court room for the purpose of electing a Captain for No. 1 Company and the transaction of other business. Lieut. J. R. Stewart presided and Mr. H. C. Courtney acted as Secretary. Previous to commencing the ballot for Captain, an extract of a letter from Lieut.-Colonel Foster, dated Ireland, 24th December, 1861, was read, viz: "Captain Gordon has written home to say that he has remitted me money through Mr. Simpson, of Burlington Gardens, London. I have Mr. Simpson's reply to a letter from me that no funds have reached him for me from Capt. Gordon. I wish you to mention this to Capt. Gordon, as the sum is £200 to purchase cloth, &c., for the Volunteers. The whole affair is very strange." The meeting then balloted for Captain, when Lieut. J. R. Stewart was elected. After which, two effective members and one honorary member were elected as council for the management of the finances, and assist and aid the commanding officer of the corps generally. The following gentlemen were elected: G. M. Sprout, Esq., Lumley Franklin, Esq., effective members, and Amor De Cosmos, Esq., honorary member. It was then appointed that a meeting be held at 8 o'clock, Wednesday evening next, at the Police Court room, to select a Lieut. for No. 1 Company in room of Lieut. J. R. Stewart, promoted. HENRY C. COURTNEY, Acting Sec'y. Feb. 20th, 1862.

Not "Jack Frost's Doings."
EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—I notice that you state in this morning's paper that a portion of the gas-house will have to come down on account of the doings of Jack Frost, and that the building is deemed unsafe. The statement is incorrect. None of the gas-house wall will be removed, but only about ten feet of the wall surrounding the yard. The building itself is perfectly safe.

JOHN J. MACREDDY, Contractor.
Victoria, Feb'y 21, 1862.

Mr. McCrea begs to intimate that he will sell, on Monday, Feb. 24, as advertised in another column, heavy Cheviot suits, fine doekskin suits, Petersham coats and pants. Also, an invoice of fine French hats, just received from San Francisco, consisting of fine Cassimere hats, fine Peruvian hats, Garibaldi hats, and other styles. He will also sell, by particular request, 3 cases of cigars, 80 barrels Jas. Mackee's No. 1, Sandwich Island sugar, and a few other groceries.

FURNITURE AND HARDWARE.—Mr. Backus will hold a sale of furniture and hardware this morning at 11 o'clock, at salesroom, Commercial Row. The furniture is nearly new and is the property of a clergyman leaving the Colony, and housekeepers have thus a rare opportunity offered to obtain bargains.

MERCHANTS' MEETING.—A meeting of Victoria merchants has been held to take steps for the formation of a Chamber of Commerce, and a committee was appointed to draw up a code of rules, etc. The object had in view is the adoption of a uniform system for transacting business.

TAKE QUICKSILVER.—Parties starting for the Stickeen River diggings must remember to take a small quantity of quicksilver with them. The gold shown us by Choquette is similar to that found on the Lower Fraser—very fine, and requires to be amalgamated to insure successful working.

The sloop Hamley, with passengers for Stickeen, sailed yesterday morning.

The Emily Harris will leave for Burrard's Inlet on Monday at 2 o'clock.

DIVINE SERVICE.
Congregational Church, Fort street; Rev. M. Macfie, pastor. Service at the above place of worship on Sunday at 11 A. M., and at 6½ P. M. Sunday school at 2 P. M.

Presbyterian Church—Divine Service in Moore's Hall on Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock, and in the evening, at 6½ o'clock.
The Rev. R. Jamieson will conduct the morning service.

AN OLD CUSTOM REVIVED.—Among other ancient customs which our new military system has revived, is that of embalming the dead—a process which has become necessary for the purpose of preserving bodies so that they can be kept for or transmitted with safety to their friends. An office has been opened in Washington with this object, and is now busily engaged embalming the dead according to a celebrated Parisian system. The operation consists of the injection into the body of a powerful antiseptic liquid, which hardens the tissues and produces a perfect marble and statuesque appearance of repose, without discoloration or offensive odor. This is a great improvement on the old Egyptian method, which dried the tissues and rapidly destroyed all signs of individuality and all possibility of identification, except through some other medium than that of the personal characteristics of the subject. The ancient process of embalming is among the lost arts; it was a secret which died with those who practiced it. Modern science, which generally proves itself equal to the emergency, has supplied us with a method more beautiful, and quite as enduring, for preserving the personality of those whose services to their country have rendered their mortal remains valuable.—*American paper.*

A CHINA SERVICE FOR SECRETARY SEWARD.—Prince Napoleon, who seems to retain a lively remembrance of the pleasant incidents and kind attentions which marked his short visit to this country, has selected from the French Imperial manufactory, a magnificent service of Sevres China as a present to Secretary Seward, and the costly *souvenir* is now on its way to this country—in fact, we believe, has already arrived.

IMPORTS, For the Month Ending January 31st, 1862, To Victoria, V. I.

SAN FRANCISCO.	
Ale and Porter, 20	Lard, 100 cks..... 88
Op. 3 pgs..... 260	Liquors, 92 cks..... 1468
Alcohol, 90 cks..... 1140	Mdse. 303 pgs..... 7339
Barley, 250 cks..... 244	Matches, 12 cks..... 586
Bacon, 11 cks..... 408	Mouldings, 31 pgs..... 150
Beef, 15 cks..... 150	Mules, 1..... 22
Butter, 43 cks..... 2551	Maccaroni, 8 bxs..... 115
Cheese, 25 bales..... 2815	Olive Oil, 25 cks..... 1551
Brandy, 134 casks..... 2387	Oil, Coal 114 cks..... 1851
Brass, 17 cks..... 20	Onions, 33 cks..... 52
Butter, 84 pgs..... 2210	Oats, 55 cks..... 68
Brooms, 3 doz..... 120	Oysters, 5 cks..... 387
Clocks, 4 cks..... 120	Paper, 17 pgs..... 36
Corn, 48 cks..... 62	Powder, Yeast 4 cks..... 99
Camphene, 130 cks..... 2030	Paints, 17 pgs..... 690
Candles, 317 bxs..... 471	Perfumery, 5 pgs..... 12
Champagne, 70 cks..... 258	Pails, 4 doz..... 250
Cheese, 6 cks..... 135	Pipes, 4 cks..... 683
Cider, 20 cks..... 7179	Plated ware, 5 cks..... 126
Cigars, 35 cks..... 611	Rice, 5 cks..... 4187
Coffee, 42 cks..... 3020	Sugar, 347 pgs..... 155
Clothing, 15 cks..... 170	Seeds, 17 pgs..... 416
Confectonery, 5 cks..... 588	Stoves, 37 pgs..... 15
Crockery, 6 blids..... 240	Srup, 4 cks..... 135
Doors, 52 pgs..... 850	Shoes, 3 cks..... 638
Drugs, 30 pgs..... 4032	Salt, 46 cks..... 147
Duck, 2 bls..... 25	Ship Chandlery, 25
Dry Goods, 52 pgs..... 7832	pgs..... 198
Eggs, 1 bxs..... 6964	Sundries, 58 pgs..... 5281
Flour, 2318 bxs..... 1307	Soap, 6 bxs..... 237
Furniture, 197 pgs..... 690	Spirits, 21 cks..... 1273
Groceries, 212 pgs..... 42	Tea, 86 chests..... 1495
Hair, 44 pgs..... 942	Tobacco, 79 pgs..... 39
Glassware, 75 pgs..... 7502	Trunks, 11 pgs..... 25
Hardware, 555 pgs..... 151	Vegetables, 10 cks..... 219
Hams, 10 cks..... 442	Wheat, 91 pgs..... 275
Hats, 2 cks..... 109	Wagon Materials, 10 packages..... 125
Hay, 13 tons..... 276	Wine, 220 pkgs..... 2783
Iron, 14 pgs..... 4041	
Leather, 4 rolls..... 58,521	

PORTLAND.	
Apples, 17 bxs..... 52	Fruit trees, 3 bxs..... 40
Butter, 17 pgs..... 225	Flour, 499 cks..... 675
Eggs, 7 boxes..... 150	
Total value.....	\$ 1502

PORT TOWNSEND.	
Butter, 4 pgs..... 250	Leather, 3 pgs..... 100
Brass, 8 tons..... 240	Lumber, 112 M..... 932
Barley, 400 bxs..... 450	Oats, 1750 bus..... 801
Biscuits, 800 bxs..... 160	Onions, 31 cks..... 102
Chickens, 1 coop..... 335	Potatoes, 2030 bus..... 1340
Cattle, 188 head..... 20	Shingles, 214 M..... 648
Furs, 1 pg..... 6530	Sheep, 479..... 25
Flour, 53 blis..... 155	Sundries, 1 pg..... 227
Hay, 97 tons..... 2433	Wool, 31 bales..... 265
Hogs, 80..... 490	Wheat, 200 bushels..... 275
Horses, 7..... 645	
Total value.....	\$22,368

NORTHWEST COAST.	
Furs, 1 lot.....	\$ 1000
HONOLULU, S. I.	
Blankets, 10 bales..... 3015	Perfumery, 3 cks..... 500
Beer, 200 pgs..... 218	Sugar, 314 kegs..... 2853
Coffee, 245 bags..... 1718	Tea, 55 cks..... 475
Malacca, 352 blis..... 1290	Watches, 1 bx..... 214
Pulu, 20 bales.....	
Total value.....	\$12,675

RECAPITULATION.	
San Francisco.....	\$ 95,521
Portland.....	1,502
Port Townsend.....	22,368
Northwest Coast.....	1,000
Honolulu.....	12,675
Total Imports for January.....	\$133,066

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, V. I.

ARRIVED.
Feb 11—Stmr Otter, Mount. New Westminster
Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Stmr Emily Harris, Court, New Westminster

CLEARED.
Feb 21—None

PASSENGERS.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE from Port Townsend—De White, Miles, Cook, S. D Howe, Davis, J. Whiting, H. Sexton, N. Field, Deo, H. DeWitt, L. S. Bregard, W. Carter, Pettigrove.

IMPORTS.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—F. Reynolds, 13 hd cattle; P. Cline, 5 do do.

Trade Licenses Act, 1860.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT summary proceedings will be forthwith taken against all parties failing to make immediate payment to the Treasurer of the amount for which they are assessed for the half year commencing 1st July, 1861.

WM. BROOKE NAYLOR,
Sheriff of Vancouver Island.
SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 20th Feb'y, 1862. fe21 1w

Camphene, Coal Oil, and Coal-Oil Lamps.

LANGLEY BROS.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED,

Per bark "N. S. Perkins,"

A SUPPLY OF

CAMPHENE,

COAL OIL;

And a great variety of

Coal-Oil Lamps.

fe17 1m

MAP

OF THE

CARRIBOO MINES,

Embracing the

Gold Regions of British Columbia,

WITH ROUTES, NAMES AND DIS-

WANCES between each mining locality, carefully compiled from the best authority, by Mr. G. Egner. For sale by

fe18 2m HIBBEN & CARSWELL.

Jas. Hennessy's Brandy

In one dozen Cases,

AT THE

STAR AND GARTER.

fe18 1f

CAUTION.

LEITCHFORD'S WAX VESTAS.

R. LEITCHFORD & CO. GUARANTEE

that the matches will light in any climate, even if dropped in water. Customers, therefore, when ordering Wax Matches should be particular in requesting "Leitchford's Make," as others are often substituted.

R. Leitchford & Co. having just built an extensive

Manufactory, are now prepared to export at a few

days' notice any order made payable in England.

Three Cole Lane, Bethnal Green, (late of White-

chapel), London. fe12 2m

MISCELLANEOUS.

BENEFIT

FOR THE—

Royal Victoria Hospital,

Under the patronage of Capt. the Hon'ble J. W. S. SPENCER, and the Officers of H. M. S. Torquay.

The Ethiopian Minstrels

OF THE SHIP WILL GIVE A MUSICAL

Entertainment, assisted by the BAND, under the direction of Mr. Jarret, at the

Royal Theatre, Victoria,

in aid of the funds of the above institution;

On MONDAY, the 24th inst.

Doors open at 7½. Performance to commence at 8 o'clock precisely.

Boxes \$15; reserved seats, \$1 50; rest of house \$1. Tickets may be obtained on application to Messrs. J. J. Cochran, J. J. Southgate, C. C. Pendergast and Robt. Burnaby. fe12

M. MEYER

Has Removed

TO THE STORE FORMERLY OCCUPIED

BY WELLS, FARGO & CO.,

Next door to Langley Bros' Drug Store,

WHERE HE OFFERS FOR SALE AN

Entire New Stock of

CLOTHING

—AND—

Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods

HATS, CAPS AND

DRY GOODS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

fe17

For Sandwich Islands.

THE FAST-SAILING PACKET

"Constitution,"

HAVING SUPERIOR CABIN ACCOM-

modations, will sail from Tekelet (Port Gam-

ble) for Honolulu, touching at Lahaina, on or about

Monday, 24th February.

All letters sent to Fowler & Co. of Port Townsend,

will be carefully forwarded.

The Constitution is the best stock vessel running

to the Islands and made her last passage from Hono-

lulu to Victoria in fifteen days. fe19

"Job's Comforters"

Can be obtained at the

Star and Garter Hotel.

fe18 1f

BEDS!

AT THE

Star and Garter Hotel.

fe18 1f

"Let us to Billiards!"

—SHAKESPEARE

AT THE

STAR AND GARTER HOTEL.

fe18 1f

GARDEN SEEDS.

JUST RECEIVED BY EXPRESS,

FROM THE

SHAKERS' GARDEN,

NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK,

GRASS SEEDS, FRUIT AND FLOWER

SEEDS

Of this year's growth.

For sale by

fe19 2p CURTIS & MOORE, Druggists,

Yates street.

ISLAND-GROWN

GARDEN SEEDS!

THE PRODUCE OF

HILLSIDE GARDEN,

And guaranteed to be of

Last Year's Growth,

FOR SALE BY

W. M. SEARBY,

ja28 Druggist, Government st.

F. J. De St. Ours,

Commission Merchant

—AND—

SHIPPING AGENT,

St. Ours' Wharf, Victoria, V. I.

Always on hand and for sale in lots to suit,

FLOUR, PEAS,

BARLEY, OATS,</

